

## PROHIBITION BILL IS GIVEN HEARING

## Whitehead Says Democratic Ring Should Pass It.

## BOOK COMPANY SEEMS A WINNER

**Educational Officials Think Concern Is Valuable to State in Distribution of School Books. Virginia Education Commission Makes Important Report**

Initial public hearings on the Jordan enabling act to permit the calling of an election by petition, the question of State-wide prohibition, and the conclusion of the investigation into the affairs of the Virginia Book Company, the matters of principal importance in connection with the session of the Legislature. These two happenings were in committee. The Senate continued to transact no business of importance, and the House spent most of its time in discussing a bill to amend a bill to a committee, which was finally dropped.

Aside from these matters, the General Assembly, in joint session, completed the election of Senators Marlin and Swanson and appointed committees to notify them officially of their choice.

### Threatened With Defeat.

Threats of political death and annihilation were hurled at the heads of members of the Legislature who oppose the enabling act by speaker after speaker of the Antislavery League of Virginia at the hearing yesterday afternoon and last night before the Elections Committee. Saying they represented the people of Virginia, the advocates of the Jordan bill set forth their claims to be allowed a vote on the subject of the open saloon.

The affirmative rested for the time being and the committee rose.

again on Tuesday morning at 1 o'clock, when the opposition will present its side. The Antisaloon League will have the close, but whether or not it will be reached on Tuesday is doubtful.

### Would Help "the Ring."

Unique indeed was the speech of Thomas Whitehead, of Amherst, who concluded the hearing. He made his appeal without sentiment and without temperance argument. He called himself a "ring Democrat," saying he had belonged to the Tenth District organization and the State "machine." He argued that the machine had been in the saddle for twenty years, and can stay there so long as it continues to give the best administration.

To keep its hold on the voters of Virginia, said Mr. Whitehead, it should pass the enabling act, and it will then continue in power. He had read the

twenty-four Senators would vote against the bill, and he said the "boys should get together and see that it becomes law, so that the twenty-four could go and join "the kickers," the antimachine faction in the party in the State.

Mr. Whitehead made a challenge for a joint caucus of the Democrats of the two houses, which he thought would show a clear majority for the measure. It is believed the House committee will report the bill unfavorably.

**Book Company Hearing.**  
When the investigation as to the Virginia Book Company was concluded last night, after two hearings for the

day, it seemed that its verdict would be favorable to that concern. At the night session of the special House committee, headed by Dr. Kent, official of the Department of Public Instruction, appeared and said that the book company had formulated a system calculated to bring about an adequate distribution of school books. They evidently approved its operations.

At the morning session Attorney General Williams made vigorous

attacks on the company, saying it was a combination in restraint of trade, that its business should be suppressed, and that the book publishers who have

made contracts with it should be sued by the State. The committee did not reach a decision, but may have it ready for the House to-day.

**Bill Is Recommended.**

The House at its session yesterday sent back to committee the bill to prevent criminals and idiots from transmitting their tendencies to children. In addition, it began, but did not finish, a debate on a reduction in the exemption of the wages of laboring men from \$50 to \$25 a month, applicable

The advocates of the bill said it was designed to protect the business men

while also caring for the families of the laborers. Its opponents said it changed a system which has worked well for years, and might work injustice to men of small income.

In both bodies the report of the Virginia Education Commission was received. It advocates a millage for maintenance of higher institutions of learning, recommends that there should be but one medical college in Virginia, declines to favor the establishment of a woman's college at this time, and

makes many interesting suggestions as to the State's educational system and as to the work done in the schools. Sitting jointly, the Senate and

House Committees on Finance heard last night from the eclecismynary institutions and departments of the State government as to their needs in the way of appropriations for the next two years. No new material of consequence was presented, the heads of institutions repeating figures already produced and laid before the Legislature by the Governor.

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## TRAGEDY NEAR ROANOKE IN WASHINGTON TODAY

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The murder was the result of a suit for slander instituted recently in the Circuit Court of Boone county by Mrs. John M. Vogenthaler, who lives less than a quarter of a mile from the scene of the shooting. Mrs. Vogenthaler, guide, took the party in automobile down the Wall Street canyon, and there were met at the Stock Exchange by a large number of business men. News of the visit had preceded their arrival, and a crowd of nearly 3,000 persons had gathered to greet the visitors. When they were introduced to the interest, a so general business interest, they stopped for more than ten minutes.

He ran to his room and saw Raines there with two more shots while Miss Chambers lay in the road. Scales saw Raines run down the road in the direction of Giles LaPrade's place, where Charles Day was at work loading straw. Raines placed the long revolver on the fence and opened fire on Mr. Day.

Magistrate Glish telephoned to Chief Dyer, of Roanoke, shortly after the murder was committed, and in response to his message Chief Dyer sent policemen to the scene. Excitement was intense at the time, and the crowd at the murder having spread rapidly. It did not take the men of the community long to assemble, and several of them

home, and lived four hours. Dr. G. D. White was summoned and arrived in a short while. He made an examination and saw that Miss Chambers could not survive. Dr. White found there were three wounds—one over the left eye, another in the right cheek and a third

(Continued on second page.)

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made contracts with it should be sued by the State. The committee did not reach a decision, but may have it ready for the House to-day.

**Bill Is Recommitted.**

The House at its session yesterday sent back to committee the bill to pro-

vent criminals and idiots from transmitting their tendencies to children. In addition, it began, but did not finish, a debate on a reduction in the exemption of the wages of laboring men from \$50 to \$25 a month, applicable only to claims for rent, necessities of life and wages of other laboring men. The advocates of the bill said it was designed to protect the business men while also caring for the families of

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